

clothe the despised and rejected with self respect has been part of her glorious mission. To these people the church has always gone and blessed them in her Master's name, and today perhaps she has outdone herself in caring not only in orphans, in nursing the sick, but in going into the by-ways of men to rescue the sin-cursed and poverty-stricken. But the church must not confine herself to any class, not even to the poor. Her mission is to all men. The danger today is that the church leaves the rich to go their own way. Let us remember that rich men and women too are precious in the sight of the Lord, and that in the midst of their wealth, they too have temptations. They too need the gospel that they may serve their Lord and their fellow-men faithfully. They have need of comfort often, for care, and sorrow, and pain are not strangers to their homes. The Lord needs them too. He has a place for them in His church; and He has a lesson for them as to how they shall use their wealth in this world. The rich and the poor alike are His. Let the church care for both."

JUST as we were ready to go to press we found ourselves short four reams of paper. There was but one thing to do and that was to purchase the amount needed from one of the Ashland publishers. The Ashland Printing Company accommodated us for which they have our thanks. The paper is poorer in quality but is nevertheless good newspaper.

THE MISSIONARY PLEDGE.

With this issue of the paper we send out the Missionary Pledge prepared by the Board. It is simple and easily understood. If you wish to contribute to the Home work without indicating for which of the three missions the money is to be used, then enter the amount in the top column, either by the day or by the month. If you have any preference as to where your money is to go, write the amount in the column opposite the mission for which you want it used, Chicago, Dayton or Washington. If your contribution is for the Foreign work write the amount in that column. If you wish to contribute a certain amount to the several missions, or to the Home and Foreign, write the amounts in the column separately. You can, if you wish, pay a certain amount per day for the support of one of these missions and a certain amount per month for another. It will be remembered that the conference at Johnstown, requested that each member pay not less than one cent per month. This you will

understand is the minimum. A cent per month means twelve cents a year, which amount is so small that no one, even an ordinarily poor man would think of being satisfied with it. That very small amount is intended for the very poor and not many of us belong to that class. At least 2,000 readers of the EVANGELIST should give one cent a day instead of one cent a month. Even that is a small amount. Sister Ellen Gnagey has already given at the rate of seven cents a day for a whole year. One hundred others can do the same and do it easier than she did; we mean are better able to give that amount.

Now after you have read the pledge go to the Lord in prayer and let him be your counsellor as to the amount you should give. Consider well two things: First, the great need of money to carry on the mission work. Think of the missionaries in our cities, consecrated to the work of the Lord and giving their time and talent to the saving of souls whom they love as the Master loves them. Prayfully study the needs of the world. Second, contemplate for a moment what Christ has done for you and is now doing. What now are his claims upon you? To whom are you indebted for your salvation and all the blessings that accompany salvation? To Christ and to him alone. The Christ who gave himself for you that you might enjoy the blessings of salvation in this life and in the life to come, now asks you to give of your means that others may enjoy these blessings with you. Will you do it? You are not your own, you are bought with a price; neither are your possessions your own; they are the Lord's. It is thro him that you came into possession of them. They should be held at his disposal and the truly consecrated Christian so holds them. Are you not thankful that your lot is not that of the heathen or the poverty stricken in our large cities? Show your thankfulness in a liberal contribution to help those who are less fortunate than we are. These two things, the needs of the world and the great claims of Christ, carefully and prayfully considered, you are ready to sit down and write the amount you should give.

First, let every reader of the EVANGELIST fill out one of these pledges, even if you are too poor to give one cent a month; give *something* however small the amount may be. Go about filling out this pledge in exactly the same spirit as you would in observing the rite of Christian baptism or the ordinances of the Lord's house. Do

it in the spirit of the Lord, not grudgingly, but cheerfully and *according to your ability*. It is just as important that you should support the missionary cause as it is that you should be baptized or to wash one another's feet. After these pledges have been filled by individuals, then let each Young People's Society and each Sunday-school and each Sisters' Society in the brotherhood, fill out one of these blanks pledging to pay so much per day or month. Additional pledges can be had on application at this office. Send the pledge, with or without money, to J. C. Cassel, 709 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa. Now brethren and sisters, let us not delay this matter. The missions need money at once, and unless we come to their support the cause must necessarily suffer, and this should not be. Let us keep Brother Cassel busy filling several thousand pledges the next few weeks. Who will be first? Will Brother Cassel please report the name and address of the one that reaches him first?

THE BEST DEFINITION.

What is a Christian? Perhaps if one hundred persons were to write answers to this question there would be as many different answers as there were writers. It is not likely that any two of them would even agree in every particular. We have decided to ask our readers for answers to this question, and believing that a little competition is legitimate, we offer a prize to the one who will send us the best and most satisfactory answer to the question. The prize will be in the form of a book, twenty of which will be advertized in a future issue of the paper and from which the successful competitor can make his selection. The list will include such works as Edersheim's "Life and Times of Jesus," Commentary on the Old and New Testament, etc. The twenty books will be named later. The offer is open to all who come under the conditions named below:

1. The competitor must be a subscriber to the EVANGELIST.
2. The answer must be in on or before December 1, 1897.
3. The answer must be in fifty words or less.
4. It should be plainly written and may be on a postal card.
5. We reserve the right to publish any or all of these answers.
6. The judges will be three disinterested persons, ministers of the gospel in